

Message Text

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21

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 OPR-01 SAM-01 SP-02 CPR-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CCO-00 SY-04 USSS-00 SCCT-01 EB-07 OES-03

AEC-05 AECE-00 /067 W

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O 220750Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6250

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD) PINT JA

SUBJ: JAPANESE REACTIONS TO PRESEDENTIAL VISIT

DEPT PASS SAM 27000 IMMEDIATE

SEOUL PASS TO PRESEDENTIAL PARTY

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUMMARY: THE JAPANESE NATION GREETED SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION
OF PRESIDENT FORD'S HISTORIC VISIT TO JAPAN NOVEMBER
18 TO 22 WITH GREAT SATISFACTION AND RELIEF. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT WAS TAKING PLACE AT A TIME OF DEEPENING,
GLOBAL ECONOMIC TROUBLES AND INTENSE POLITICAL TENSION WITHIN
JAPAN. A NUMBER OF THINGS COULD HAVE GONE WRONG AND INTERFERED
WITH THE SUCCESS OF THE VISIT. DESPITE UNPRECEDENTED
SECURITY PRECAUTIONS (INTENSIFIED BY POLICE CONCERN STEMMING FROM
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TWO UNRESOLVED BOMBINGS IN CENTRAL TOKYO IN RECENT WEEKS, EX-

TREMIST INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS COULD HAVE CAUSED A MISHAP. ALTHOUGH THE CONSERVATIVE FACTIONS HAD EARLIER AGREED TO HONOR A POLITICAL TRUCE UNTIL THE DEPARTURE OF THE PRESIDENT, IT COULD HAVE COME APART AND HAMPERED TANAKA'S ABILITY SMOOTHLY TO HOST THE VISIT. EVEN THE WEATHER COULD HAVE INTERFERED WITH THE HOLDING OF OUTDOOR FUNCTIONS.

2. NONE OF THESE UNFORTUNATE THINGS HAPPENED, AND VIRTUALLY EVERY ASPECT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT WENT OFF EXCEPTIONALLY WELL. TROUBLES WITH EXTREMIST STUDENTS WERE CONFINED TO A SINGLE INCIDENT RESULTING IN THE ARREST OF OVER 100 DEMONSTRATIONS AND TO A FEW SHOVING MATCHES BETWEEN STUDENTS AND RIOT POLICE AT RALLY SITES IN TOKYO AND KYOTO. THE LDP FACTIONS OBSERVED THE TRUCE AGAINST TANAKA AND CONFINED THEIR POLITICKING TO THE BACKROOMS. IN BRILLIANT AUTUMNAL WEATHER, THE ARRIVAL CEREMONY, THE PROCESSION FOR THE PRESIDENT AND THE EMPEROR TO THE IMPERIAL PALACE, AND THE DEPARTURE CEREMONY TWO DAYS LATER WERE CARRIED OUT WITH PAGEANTRY NOT SEEN IN POSTWAR JAPAN. THESE AS WELL AS THE IMPERIAL BANQUET ON NOVEMBER 19 WERE TELEVISED AND ENJOYED BY MILLIONS.

3. ALL NEWSPAPERS GAVE FULL, FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE TO THESE CEREMONIAL DEVELOPMENTS AS WELL AS TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE, THE SUMMIT TALKS AS RELATED BY THE SECRETARY AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER, AND THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH AT THE PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON ON NOVEMBER 20. THE PRESS UNDERScoreD THE THEME THAT JAPAN AND THE US HAVE TO RELATE TO EACH OTHER IN WAYS AND DEGREES NOT SEEN BEFORE TO EACH OTHER IN WAYS AND DEGREES NOT SEEN BEFORE BETWEEN TWO OVERSEAS POWERS, BUT THAT CLOSER AND MORE CANDID DIALOGUE IS NECESSARY TO EASE CONTINUING POINTS OF FRICTION.

4. CHIEF AMONG THESE, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTING, IS THE QUESTION OF HANDLING OIL AND FOOD SHORTAGES. SOME COMMENTATORS VIEW ARTICLE SIX OF THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON THIS SUBJECT AS A US ATTEMPT TO "BIND" JAPAN TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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US INITIATIVES, WHILE OTHERS SEE IT AS A STATEMENT OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES WHICH ALLOWS JAPAN SOME FLEXIBILITY TO WORK OUT A SOLUTION. ANOTHER ISSUE OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IS THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS CONTROVERSY BROUGHT TO PUBLIC ATTENTION BY THE LAROCQUE TESTIMONY AT A US SENATE HEARING. THE PRESS AND, AS EXPECTED, THE OPPOSITION PARTIES HAVE TAKEN BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO TASK FOR NOT COMING UP WITH ANY CLARIFICATION DURING THE

VISIT BEYOND THOSE OFFERED BEFORE.

5. AS A WHOLE, HOWEVER, AS CLEARLY SEEN IN THE PRESS, THE JAPANESE NATION IS HIGHLY PLEASED WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT AND ITS HOSPITALITY. THE VISIT IS A BENCHMARK IN US-JAPAN RELATIONS. AS STATED TO THE PRESS BY FOREIGN MINISTER KIMURA: QTE: US-JAPANESE RELATIONS HAVE GONE THROUGH THE OCCUPATION PERIOD, THE US PROTECTORATE PERIOD, AND THE PERIOD OF ECONOMIC RIVALRY AS SEEN IN THE TEXTILE AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS CONTROVERSIES. THESE ARE NOW PAST, AND THE IMPORTANT THING NOW IS TO UNIFY OUR UNDERSTANDING. IN THAT SENSE THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF NOVEMBER 20 IS A LAUNCHING PLATFORM, AND WHAT FOLLOWS ARE DETAILS. UNQTE. HODGSON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SAM 27000.

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